



Statements

of the Candidates for the Scientific Committee
(27 February 2012)

95 full members were nominated for the Scientific Committee during the nomination process of the February 2012 election. 49 nominees responded positively to their nomination and submitted their statements of candidates. The list of candidates is the following:

1. Mr Åberg Kai Viljami
2. Mr Acton Thomas
3. Mr Agarin Timofey
4. Mr Andreescu Gabriel
5. Ms Asseo Henriette
6. Ms Beissinger Margaret
7. Mr Berescu Catalin
8. Mr Brown Philip
9. Ms Bunescu Ioana
10. Ms Casa-Nova Maria José
11. Mr Clark Colin
12. Mr Csepeli Gyorgy
13. Ms Davidova Eva
14. Ms Decheva Mirella
15. Mr Duez Jean-Baptiste
16. Mr Duminica Ion
17. Ms Durst Judit
18. Ms Engebrihtsen Ada Ingrid
19. Mr Friedman Eben
20. Mr Friedman Victor
21. Mr Granqvist Kimmo
22. Ms Greenfields Margaret
23. Ms Kalaydjieva Luba
24. Ms Kirilova Diana
25. Ms Kovalcsik Katalin
26. Mr Kyuchukov Hristo
27. Mr Liegeois Jean-Pierre
28. Ms Malloy Tove
29. Ms Manrique Nathalie
30. Ms Marushiakova Elena
31. Mr Matras Yaron
32. Mr McGarry Aidan
33. Ms Mendes Maria Manuela Ferreira
34. Mr Olivera Martin
35. Mr Pamporov Alexey
36. Mr Pap Andras László
37. Mr Petrovski Trajko
38. Mr Popov Veselin
39. Ms Ram Melanie
40. Mr Rergo (Yermoshkin) Nico (Sergiy)
41. Ms Slavkova Magdalena
42. Ms Sobotka Eva
43. Mr Stewart Michael
44. Ms Tauber Elisabeth
45. Ms Theodosiou Aspasia
46. Mr Vašečka Michal
47. Mr Vermeersch Peter
48. Ms Vincze Enikő
49. Ms Zahova Sofiya



The candidate statements are listed below in alphabetical order of the surnames.

1. Mr Kai Viljami Åberg

I am working as a musician (not a good one and sorry about the language) and as a research with Roma music in Finland, In my opinion "gypsy music" is well articulate what comes to the identity of the Roma. The tension between the local and the global has been at the heart of much recent debate on popular music (see Biddle & Knights 2007) and also the music of the Roma (eg Barthelemy 2008; Jurkova 2010; Marushiakova & Popov 2010;Kovalcsik 2011; Silwerman 2011). Today there are many anthropological, sociological, ethnomusicological, linguistic etc. discussions about the culture of the Roma. Even seeing the polyphony of local voices, researcher have stressed construction of local identity (Roma music in Austria, Hemetek 2006; in Bulgaria, Marushiakova & Popov 2010; in Czech, Jurkova 2010; in Kosovo, Pettan 2002; in Romania, Marian-Bălaşa 2004; in Sweden, Lundberg 2010; in Hungary, Kovalschik 2003; Davidova 1991; in Norway, Barthelemy 2008; in Finland, Åberg 2002; 2003; Blomster & Åberg 2006). What makes Roma identities particularly interesting in discussions of ethnicity is that these questions become accentuated and pushed to the fore: The Roma have no nation state, territory of their own (Marsh & Strand 2005: 16).

Or?

In seeking to articulate the “national dimensions” in music, scholars are met with an extraordinary set of complex problems (see Biddle & Knights 2007). The Roma revival in Europe in last few decades saw the emergence of the so-called “new (hybrid) Roma music” which synthesized urban and rural form of Roma music (e.g. Roma hip hop; see Jurkova 2010; Balkan Gypsy music, Silweman 2011). The very ethnic feel that makes them so valuable within a particular community obstructs access to a wider international community. Actually this is not something new: modified hybrids are possible, as when guitarist Django Reinhardt made “gypsy music” universally appealing joining it to jazz and other musical forms (Ryan 2010: 77). Certain ethnic cultural styles are valuable on the international scene, but how are both idioms to be linked with national and transnational identity of the Roma if people so quickly transform their own musical tradition? I try examine the dynamic relation between the three levels – the local, the national and the global identity of the Roma: analyzed the construction of “Roma” in Finnish Kaale (Roma) music as part of a set of fluid discourses that relate in complex ways to the local/global syllogism, based on my fieldwork investigation since 1994. From the constructional viewpoint I approach the music of the Roma in the way that they do not in themselves represent some old and stabile music culture, but they are the result of signification and reorganise the object of each person, generation or gender to the music.

2. Mr Thomas Acton

Dr Thomas Acton OBE is Professor Emeritus of Romani studies at the University of Greenwich. He ran the first Gypsy Council caravan school on an illegal encampment in the UK in 1967, was twice secretary of the National Gypsy Education Council, and played a major role in the beginning of state education for Romani children in the UK. His PhD (1974) was on UK Gypsy Politics, and he has since published many books and papers. He is Patron of the Roma Support Group in London, secretary



of the International Gypsy Lore Society, and secretary of Brentwood Gypsy Support group. He has reasonable spoken English, Romani, French, German and Cantonese.

2. Mr Timofey Agarin

My research interest is with ethnicity and the role it plays in European integration processes and I focus on Romanis specifically as a speaker of the UACES sponsored collaborative research network "Romanis in Europe". In the past I looked at the dynamic relations between national identity, power relations and ethnic conflict across the postcommunist region and particularly at institutions of the nation-state in the issue areas of non-discrimination, minority protection and migration. Since my student days in Russia, Germany and in the UK I have researched many these issues and came to appreciate the special place Romani minorities hold in minority studies, crucially because solving the challenge of accomodating with their diversity will determine the future of social integration in Europe. My work at the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) and currently at the Centre for Ethnic Conflict, Queen's University Belfast allows me to connect researchers with a European agenda with political elites and activists. As a member of the RSNET Committee I will continue building bridges between scholars, policy-makers, Romani communities and activists. In the past, Romani studies underlined that Romani opinions were frequently side-lined in what European citizens perceive to be their nations' inalienable right to determine the direction of social and political developments. If elected to sit on the RSNET Committee, I will seek to enhance Romani voice because I strongly believe that as a transnational, quintessentially European minority Romanis opinions ought to be engaged with at all levels of European integration, in politics, society and in research.

3. Mr Gabriel Andreescu

From the Macro-policy point of view

A main understanding is to look at public policy for the Roma community from the point of view of future outcomes. The proportion of the total population represented by the Roma will increase substantially from decade to decade. One conclusion would be that the two common approaches employed by public policies toward the Roma community - one that treats it in purely folkloric terms, and the other that treats it as a strictly social problem - are wrong. In a young population, undergoing strong numerical growth, traditions are not threatened from the outside. The relevance of the issue of protecting the ethnic identity will be diminished, while it becomes necessary to reconstruct those community attributes that allow it to cope with national and international competition in the labor market. As a result, some public policies must address the specifics of identity. The current EU strategy on Roma inclusion loses sight of these issues and states that "exclusion can be best grasped by reckoning them not as an ethnic group, but as an economic target audience. (Report on the EU strategy on Roma inclusion (2010/2276 (INI)/ 21 February 2011)"

From the Ethical point of view

For improving the social and symbolic situation of the Roma as a group, it is of key importance to change the status of women within the community. There is an unexpectedly strong parallel between the situation of Roma women and that of women in orthodox Islamic communities: the obsession with virginity, the tendency to confine women to the private space, the effect of the latter on limiting the educational opportunities of girls, the will to put women under the control of men (my research team including Master students proved it so dramatically).

The main factor capable of counteracting the current state of affairs is a rise in the education level. Achieving such an objective requires a rise in the autonomy of Roma women and in school attendance by Roma children. Both features depend on the status of girls and the dynamics



of marriages in Roma communities. Early marriages, a common practice, feed the vicious circle of illiteracy, poverty and exclusion.

The Network Academic strategy

Here's my perspective on the strategy of the development of Romani studies: increasing interest in comparative analysis involving large collective of researchers; publication of research on Roma issues in classical journals of human rights, political sciences, anthropology, etc... rather than in „ethnicized” magazines; mobilizing young researchers for new investigations on Roma issues; the preservation of Romani studies in the frame of the minorities theory, instead of treating them as a distinct field; creating a database on EANRS Romani studies; adding to this database of an electronic newsletter that reviews the most interesting studies and books published in the field; adding an internal electronic newsletter EANRS with proposals for participation in research projects undertaken or in preparation.

PS. My last paper on Roma issue:

Gabriel Andreescu, „**A new sanction against Mr. Traian Bănescu by the NCCD. Exercising the freedom of expression in the debate on public policy regarding Roma**”, *Noua Revistă de Drepturilor Omului (New Journal on Human Rights)* No. 4, 2011, pp. 27-29.

Abstract: In the first part of the article I present in detail the decision no. 410 of the NCCD, rendered on September 30th 2011, to sanction with a warning a statement of the President of Romania regarding „Romanian gypsies that had arrived in the Netherlands and Finland”. Then I analyze the majority opinion of the Board of Directors, highlighting how the supporting arguments are ridden with semantic and logical errors. The article shows that the stake of this decision is the ability to talk about ethnic or ethnicized phenomena. The current 2012-2020 National Strategy for social inclusion of Romanian citizens belonging to the Roma minority avoids taking into account ethnic phenomena. The study argues that it is precisely ethnic phenomena that might prove to be the key to improving the situation of Roma, hence the need for an open discussion of the topic.

Keywords: *National Council for Combating Discrimination, Traian Bănescu, Roma, discrimination, Schengen Area, public policy*

4. Ms Henriette Asseo

I am an historian, Professor at the EHESS in Paris, and a member of its Centre de recherches historiques (CNRS-EHESS). The Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (French School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences) is a leading institution for Research and Higher Education.

Since the 1970's, I have developed intensive researches on the history of the Gypsies (Roma) in France and Europe from early modern to modern periods.

I have been heading the European Working Group on Gypsy History (the Series Interface, published by the Gypsy Research Center of University René Descartes and the University of Hertfordshire Press, and supported by the European Commission and the European Council until 2004).

I am currently working as an historical expert at the Fondation de la Mémoire de la Shoah, a major Shoah Foundation for Europe. I am also a member of the editorial committee of the review « Etudes Tsiganes ».

My complete resume is at

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/culture/romastudies/CV_Aseoo.pdf

I would like to join the Network for the following reasons :



- To introduce historical expertise in every project in order to clarify and explain the historical and anthropological implantation of the Gypsies (Roma) in Europe.
- To promote the collection and the study of primary sources, state, local and private archives, special collections, in the whole of Europe, in order to facilitate the exchange of datas and rigorous knowledge.

Promoting academic historical knowledge is one of the most important means to resist to the growing threat of expropriation and "anti-gypsy attacks", in various countries of Europe.

5. Ms Margaret Beissinger

Up until 2006 I was Associate Professor in the Slavic Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA) and since then hold a position at Princeton University also in the Slavic Department, where I offer courses on Romani culture, Balkan culture, and Balkan oral traditions, all of which concern Roma in greater or lesser degree. I also teach South Slavic and Romanian languages.

My interests center on traditional culture and cultural expression among Roma of southeastern Europe and how, in particular, post-communism has affected their plight. My dissertation (Harvard University) was based on fieldwork that I undertook during the communist period in southern Romania where I explored the little-known (in the West) but rich epic-singing tradition that Romani musicians there (lăutari) engaged in. Later, expanded and enhanced by further fieldwork, this project became my first book, *The Art of the Lăutar* (1991). Following 1989, I have returned to Romania numerous times to continue fieldwork with urban and rural lăutari, maneliști (Romani performers of the contemporary "Oriental" music genre manele), and their families. My interests have centered on how the post-communist period has shaped the lives of Romani musicians who depend on music-making for their income, including the radical changes that have occurred in repertoire in performance over the past twenty years. My research also includes cultural and social ways in which Romani musicians and their families have adapted to the difficult conditions of the post-communist world, including the influential role of evangelical communities in their lives (e.g., Pentecostals). I have published widely in all of these areas and am currently preparing a monograph on Romani musicians in contemporary south-central Romania as well as co-editing a volume of essays on manele.

Ever since I wrote my doctoral dissertation, I have been occupied with research that has involved Roma; Roma—especially Balkan Roma—figure prominently in my own scholarly pursuits. But I have also been active in Romani issues in more administrative capacities. I have been a member of the international Gypsy Lore Society since 1991 and have served as a member of their Board for three terms. In addition, I have been involved in and have served in various administrative capacities in numerous other scholarly societies in North America that focus on area studies (within the Balkans); I also was the President of the Association for Women in Slavic Studies (2007-08). Even in these organizations not explicitly concerned with Romani issues, my involvement has repeatedly included connections to Romani culture and society.

I am honored to be considered for the Committee of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies, and if voted in, my priorities would involve strengthening the interdisciplinary and transnational activities and approaches of the organization in order to serve their goals. This would include fostering and expanding scholarly activities and dialogue between specialists internationally as well as engaging Romani scholars and specialists more fully in the organization in order to respond to their agendas and needs.



6. Mr Catalin Berescu

Dear colleagues,

As the only architect in this group I feel honoured, and a little bit surprised by this nomination. However, this is a chance for me to play the *rara avis* part in front of a majority of social studies academics so, here it is:

I am relatively new to Romani studies; my first involvement in a research was in 2001 in an extreme poverty neighbourhood of Rudari and that changed my priorities from contemporary arts (new media theory & digital imaging) to actually teaching about poverty and Roma in an university that is obsessed with luxury (i.e. architecture) and eventually getting a PhD in that subject matter.

One of the first concrete achievements after making a first larger study on the typologies of housing in Roma communities was a commission to “save” a community living in appalling conditions in a small city in the North of Romania which resulted in a new ghetto-ish neighbourhood, with living standards that were good enough to be presented as a good practice but highly illustrative for the policies for and against Roma.

Since then I am advocating against the creation of new Roma ghettos through European and national policies in every occasion and at every level I was able to do that, from contemporary art exhibitions to small NGO’s actions and from a ministerial methodology for housing the excluded done for the Romanian Government to presentations at OSCE or DG Regio. Together with some Roma friends we also toured the Venice Biennale of Architecture with some beautifully coloured tents filled with pictures in an action entitled Roma Preview Pavilion, aiming to gather support for the inclusion of Roma in this high level event.

That might not be very academic but it touches a sensitive topic with a scientific relevance: the role of the image. There is a growing fear of the image throughout academia, hastily classified as an expression of miserabilism and journalistic approach and an increasingly rigid intimacy protection policy that is unjustly keeping the contemporary image in a subaltern epistemic position. In my opinion, the image is no less scientific than other narratives and the methodological precautions that are to be taken are part of the general research ethics.

I would like to be the advocate of the scientific status of the image in this Scientific Committee and contribute to the enlargement of the network in this respect. There is also the need to keep a connection with the very influent branch of urban planners, for now some of the worst enemies of the Roma.

European policies for Roma are strongly emerging nowadays and I think that all of us would like to be sure that EANRS is not just a cover-up for the spending of EU money in the ethno-business various domains under our mild scientific gaze and that all the impressive research activity done by our members will eventually become a public good. I have no illusions that we will be instrumental in any sort of policy making or planning but we should try to be less ornamental.

For this I would like to ask you to trust me with your vote.

7. Mr Philip Brown

I am a community psychologist with a background in tackling social exclusion by vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. I have been working on the inclusion and equality of Gypsies and Travellers in the UK for a total of 7 years. I have conducted over 20 separate studies looking at the issue of accommodation inequality over this period which includes work which has: quantified the apparent



shortfall of culturally appropriate accommodation required, reviewed the management of Gypsy and Traveller sites, and helped to design more inclusive accommodation. I have worked extensively with local governments, regional structures, advised the UK government and worked on a number of projects for the Equality and Human Rights Commission. Along with colleagues I am also working on a European Commission project which aims to investigate and improve the relations between EU Roma and non-Roma communities. I have written and presented extensively on these issues. As Deputy Director of a research unit at the University of Salford I would be honoured to assist in ensuring the valuable contribution that are made by the EUs academics and researchers are heard and have impact on European, national and local approaches to all Roma issues in order to improve the social inclusion of Roma across Europe.

8. Ms Ioana Bunescu

Ioana Bunescu is Postdoctoral Researcher at the Department of Global Political Studies, Malmö University, Sweden. She holds a PhD in Sociology from the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw and an MA in Nationalism Studies from the Central European University in Budapest. Her doctoral dissertation titled “The Politics of Collective Identity Formation – the Roma in the Enlarging Europe” is an inter-disciplinary study of the emergent trans-territorial collective identity of the Roma populations in Europe. In the past few years, Ioana Bunescu lectured and supervised postgraduate and undergraduate theses at Roskilde University and Aalborg University in Denmark. Her current research is in the areas of social change, collective action, active citizenship, transnationalism, culture-identity-politics, minorities, marginalization, representation, recognition, EU Politics, internationalization of education, and globalization.

Ioana would like to contribute with voluntary work for the Scientific Committee of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies with the aim of creating bridges and active cooperation platforms, both informal and formal, particularly between Eastern and Western European scholars dealing with Romani studies.

9. Ms Maria José Casa-Nova

Dear all,

I think that the objectives that resulted in the creation of this scientific network on Romani Studies are far more important than any discussion about who should be part of the said network. I am not going to discuss the self nomination here since every person acts in accordance with their own principles, which vary from person to person. Personally, I am incapable of doing so or of voting for myself, as I had the occasion to tell László when I received the email containing this information, but I am not going to engage in value judgements about the reasons that could have induced some colleagues to do so.

The choice of the people who will constitute the Scientific Committee for this scientific network should not be influenced by the age factor (in my view, this factor is irrelevant), but rather be on the basis of what each of us is prepared to do to contribute towards the main objectives for which this network was created. And the main objective is not to contribute towards developing research in the field of Romani Studies or contribute towards strengthening research networks, but rather to reflect upon the contribution that each of us can make - based on the accumulated knowledge in the research processes we conduct - to integrate Roma communities resident in the diverse nations of the European Union; what contribution we can make to improve the policies for integration that each EU nation develops or aims to develop with a view to reducing the degree of social and cultural exclusion of these communities, working together with political decision makers in each country. This is the



fundamental dimension of the Scientific Committee's action and it is in this sense that I have standing for election and propose to work, in case I am elected, in close cooperation and articulation with the European Commission, elected colleagues and colleagues who are part of the network, with a humble attitude regarding the knowledge that each one has produced and/or is capable of producing. It is important to mobilise this knowledge to help prepare policies and practices for sustained cultural and social integration, which could enable a dignified life and active civic participation, which cannot be built without the collaboration of all and in articulation with all cultures, social classes and minorities, understood here to be not just in numerical terms, but fundamentally understood in terms of being dispossessed of different types of socially valued power.

The network's other objectives (to promote more and better research in the area, to help researchers during the initial stages of their careers etc.) are subsidiary to this and must exist to contribute towards strengthening this.

This is my statement of intentions and it is keeping these principles and objectives in mind that I am run and that I will elect the members whom I believe should be part of the Scientific Committee.

10. Mr Colin Clark

My name is Colin Clark and I live and work in Glasgow, Scotland. I am currently employed as a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Strathclyde. I have held previous Lectureship posts at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne (in Sociology) and the University of Glasgow (in Social Policy). I have been working with Roma, Gypsy and Traveller communities in a professional context for over 17 years, both in the UK and across central and Eastern Europe. I have a PhD in Social Sciences (Social Policy and Anthropology) from the University of Edinburgh. My supervisors were Profs Judith Okely and Michael Adler. I have co-authored two books and single-authored or co-authored over 25 peer-reviewed journal articles and 17 book chapters, as well as a number of reports, expert witness statements and newspaper articles. Most of this published work has been based on grant-funding obtained from a range of sources including the ESRC, British Academy, SHRC, IPPR and Scottish Government.

In terms of my academic work, since 1994-95, I have managed and administered successive research grants, supervised and examined a large number of Undergraduate, Masters and PhD dissertation students, taught large and successful undergraduate classes that are informed by interdisciplinary research, as well as delivered outputs of solid Research Assessment Exercise (RAE)/Research Excellence Framework (REF) standing. I have also gained a range of administrative experiences, especially with my time as Associate Dean (Postgraduate) during 2009-10.

My research work within Romani Studies is of international standing. This is evidenced by my range of publications, grant awards, conference invitations, membership of key bodies and examination of PhD's in the subject area. This work is fully detailed within my CV which can be made available. I am continuing to develop my wider interests in the field of Ethnic and Racial Studies, especially migration, refugee and diversity issues. My experiences within University management have illustrated to me the importance of strategic direction and my time working at Strathclyde, especially, has given me the skills and knowledge to contribute and lead such processes. Such experience could be useful in helping to develop the European Network on Romani Studies. For example, as Associate Dean (Postgraduate), I led the development and creation of the new Graduate School for the Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty at Strathclyde during 2009-10. Central to this process was ensuring the central positioning of PhD students within the research culture of the Faculty and ensuring both growth of numbers and quality of student work. I am very committed to PhD students and currently first-supervise seven students, six of whom are International students. To date, I have first-supervised, to



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completion, seven PhD students and externally examined nine students at Universities such as Durham, Sheffield, Cardiff, Bath and the LSE. Most of these students have been working in Romani Studies. I regard this work as one of the most rewarding aspects of working in the academy. I would be keen to ensure the Network promotes itself properly amongst the PhD student community, and post-doctoral researchers, who are working in Romani Studies. I have a lot of experience of mentoring undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as 'junior' colleagues, since 1996 (when I moved from Glasgow University to Newcastle University) and have seen a number of these individuals flourish and remain as good working colleagues and friends. Encouragement to mentor is critical and I would very much like to be involved or lead on this activity within the Network, if possible.

In terms of knowledge exchange/'impact' work, I am perhaps most proud of my achievements in helping to change the law in Scotland regarding the 'legal' ethnicity of Scottish Gypsy-Travellers. This was a landmark decision in 2008 (Case No: S/132721/07) and involved writing a full report and then being in Court to defend and argue the case for the legal change to go through. Judge Nichol M. Hosie accepted my work and called me an 'impressive and persuasive witness'. Aside from this, I am actively involved with many organisations, both nationally and internationally, including the Scottish Human Rights Commission (I am on their Research Advisory Group) as well as groups such as the Scottish Refugee Council, the European Roma Rights Centre and the Runnymede Trust (sitting on their influential '360' group). I see such external engagement and exchange work as vital to the lifeblood of any active research Network and would see this as one of my first priorities if elected: developing contacts and establishing networks with major stakeholders in both national and international areas.

In essence, I am keen to consolidate and build upon my specialist position within Romani Studies, as well as broadening out to embrace more 'mainstream' arenas within Ethnic and Racial Studies, such as migration, diversity and multiculturalism. I will engage in this task with a firm eye on both conceptual matters and policy concerns across the geographies of Europe. I would be honoured to serve on the Scientific Committee of the Network and was grateful to have been nominated.

Further information:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/courses/sociology/staff/clarkcolindr/>

Selected publications

I have selected the following articles and book chapters for consideration. The selected publications cover the period 2000-2012 and include single-authored papers as well as co-authored articles. The papers listed below illustrate the range of empirical and theoretical topics I am engaging with as well as the different research methodologies I have employed in the projects so far undertaken. If you have any questions about any of the publications listed below I am happy to address these. I am also happy to send any other articles that are listed in my academic CV that you might want to read and assess. I have listed the articles by year of publication.

- 1) Clark, C. and Rice, G. 2012. (forthcoming). 'Spaces of hate, places of hope: the Romanian Roma in Belfast', in M. Stewart and A. Mirga (eds.) *Extremism and the Roma and Sinti in Europe: Challenges, Risks and Responses* London: Hurst.
- 2) Clark, C., Pietka, E., and Canton, N. 2012. (forthcoming). "I know that I have a University Diploma and I'm working as a driver': defining the EU post-enlargement movement of highly skilled Polish migrant workers to Glasgow, Scotland", in B. Glorius and I. Grabowska-Lusinska (eds.) *Post-Accession Migrations: Flows and Patterns*, Amsterdam: University of Amsterdam/IMISCOE.
- 3) Clark, C. 2011. 'The Nation-State' in K. Cordell and S. Wolff (Eds.) *The Routledge Handbook of Ethnic Conflict*, Routledge: London. Pp44-54.



- 4) Clark, C. Bull, C. and McIntosh, A. 2008. 'Land, identity, school: exploring women's identity with land in Scotland through the experience of boarding school', *Journal of Oral History*, 36(2): 75-88.
- 5) Clark, C., Canton, N. and Pietka, E. 2008. 'The thing is that we haven't come here for holidays': the experiences of new migrant communities from central and Eastern Europe who are living and working in Glasgow, Edinburgh/London: British Council and the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR).
- 6) Clark, C. 2008. 'Themed Section Introduction: Care or Control? Gypsies, Travellers and the State', *Social Policy and Society*, 7(1): 1-7. (Guest Editor)
- 7) Clark, C. and Greenfields, M. 2006. *Here to Stay: the Gypsies and Travellers of Britain*. Hatfield: UHP.
- 8) Clark, C. 2006. 'Defining ethnicity in a cultural and socio-legal context: the case of Scottish Gypsy-Travellers', *Scottish Affairs*, Issue 54: 39-67.
- 9) Clark, C. and Cemlyn, S. 2005. 'The social exclusion of Gypsy and Traveller children' in G. Preston (ed.) *At Greatest Risk: the children most likely to be poor*, London: CPAG. pp.150-165.
- 10) Clark, C. 2004. 'Severity has often enraged but never subdued a Gipsy': the history and making of European Romani stereotypes', in N.D.B. Saul and S. Tebbutt (eds.) *The Role of the Romanies: images and self-images of Romanies / 'Gypsies' in European Culture*, Liverpool: Liverpool University Press. pp.226-246.
- 11) Clark, C., Smart, H., Titterton, M. 2003. 'A literature review of the health of Gypsy/Traveller families in Scotland: the challenges for health promotion', *Health Education* 103(3): 156-165.
- 12) Clark, C. 2002. "'Not just lucky white heather and clothes pegs": putting European Gypsy and Traveller economic niches in context' in Fenton, S. and Bradley, H. (eds.) *Ethnicity and Economy: Race and Class Revisited*, Basingstoke: Palgrave. pp.183-198.
- 13) Clark, C. and Campbell E. 2000. "'Gypsy Invasion": a critical analysis of newspaper reaction to Czech and Slovak Romani Asylum-seekers in Britain, 1997.' *Romani Studies (continuing the Journal of the Gypsy Lore Society)*, Series 5, 10 (1): 23-47.

11. Mr György Csepeli

I am professor of social psychology at ELTE, the leading Hungarian university in the field of social sciences. I have been specialized to study the social psychology of intergroup relations which includes nationalities studies, anti-Semitism and intercultural conflicts. This field has led me to the problems of Romani studies in the context of relations between majority and minority. I have conducted several studies of discrimination against the Roma minority in Hungary and Eastern Central Europe. Moreover, I have been interested in the categorization process of the Roma people that in Hungary has much discrepancy concerning the clash between internal and external categorizations. I teach regularly courses at Miskolc university on Roma carriers that can be considered as successful.

12. Ms Eva Davidova

Eva Davidová is one of the eminent scientists, research workers in romistics (gypsyology) in Czech and Slovak Republic. She is the ethnologist, historian of art and ethnosociologist, with the specialization on Romani Studies.

Her special interest is the lifestyle and culture of Romanies (Gypsies) – traditional and contemporary, in the change, from the time of her studies till nowadays.



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Born in Prague , Czech Republic (28.12.1932). Studied Faculty of Philosophy ,Charles University in Prague - ethnology and history of art.

She worked in various scientific and cultural institutions - in the Sociological Institute of the Czech Academy of Science in Prague (1968 - 1976), then in Museum in Český Krumlov and from 1991 in Museum of Romani Culture in Brno what Davidová co-founded ,to do the field-researches, building the Museum collections,exhibitions,to realize the lectures . She gives the lectures (external now) on minority and romistic studies in more Universities in Czech and Slovak Republics and in abroad too. For many years was the lector at South Bohemian University in České Budějovice -Faculty of Health a Social studies till now and the principal investigator of a project , leading more students' dissertations too.

Eva Davidová made many fieldwork among the settled and oláh-nomadic communities ,

Connected with the audio recordings of traditional Roma- songfolklore too.Her photographs, what she took during the period of fifty years, now constitute an artistic document of everyday life and the roads the Romanies .

From 1967 till now she is the member of Gypsy Lore Society and of the International Roma Union (where she was on the First IRU Congress in London 1971 already).

Eva Davidová is one of the two founders of Romani studies in Czech a Slovak Republics.Since the mid-1950's of the 20th Century till now she is devoted herself to the systematic study of Romani life and culture.

Her bibliography is very extensive. For example only :

Eva Davidová,Romano Drom-Cesty Romů 1945-1990.(The Journeys of Romanies).

Olomouc UP 1995 ,2004 ,

Eva Davidová-Jan Žižka,Folk Music of the sedentary Gypsies of Czechoslovakia -
A Letelepeditett Cigányság Népzeneje Csehslovákiában. Budapest ZI MTA 1991,

Eva Davidová (ed.) and team,Kvalita života a sociální determinanty zdraví u Romů
v České a Slovenské republice (The Quality of Life from the Aspects of Health
Determinants in the Roma population ..). Praha,Triton 2010,

- and many others publications.

Romani studies is her main scientific topic.

13. Ms Mirella Decheva

I am ethnologist. For 29th years I worked at the Ethnographic Institute with Museum/now - Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. From 2011 I am working at Old Sofia Municipal Enterprise with Sofia Museum of History. I am associated external member of the Balkan Ethnology Department at the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. I am associated professor at the History Department of Sofia University.

My personal interest in Romani Studies was aroused in the course of the preparations for an ethnographic exhibition, Gypsies/Roma in Time Past, mounted by National Ethnographic Museum at the Bulgarian Academic of Sciences. I was part of the team created the First international museum exhibition "Roma/Gypsies in Central and Eastern Europe" in 1998/1999 in Budapest.



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I am engaged in several national and international research projects and have a number of publications about Roma in Bulgaria. My major publication is the monographic research on Gypsies/Roma Dress in Bulgaria (2004).

I conduct course of lectures “Multiculture and Identity” for ethnology MA Program at Sofia University.

If elected Scientific Committee member of European Academic Network on Romani Studies I will work towards raising the visibility of the existing research, support of early career researcher and towards broader and socially significant effects of Romani Studies.

14. Mr Jean-Baptiste Duez

I have studied the social reality that face the Romani people in Seine-Saint-Denis, at the North of Paris since the end of the year 2007, with people living for most of them in a very precarious situation, and with a few of them being « selected » in « integration programmes ». This work led me to write some articles in « La vie des Idées », « Asylon(s) », and « Politics in Central Europe » and to participate in several seminars. I also wrote the first version of a book of 250 pages. My study analyzes the mechanisms which are raised in the context of access to citizenship, alongside the process of repression of the migrations which were introduced in Western Europe, including France. I visited about 12 shantytowns and did follow a few families, removed from one place to another in Northern Paris. This led me to meet the different actors at the individual level, such as associations and Non Governmental Organizations : Médecins du Monde, Romeurope, La Voix des Rroms..., and some state officials (at the local level).

Thereafter, I did help for free in several situations to raise contact in between persons who receive an OQTF (Obligation to Leave the French Territory) and Lawyers/Barristers who offer their services to defend them, and are being paid for this purpose by the system of « aide juridictionnelle ». Regarding one the one hand the situation shantytown’s eviction, the endangering of children and adults, and the human rights; and on the other hand the way legislation evolves, this appears to be wether the main, or the only possible action, outside the different projects of insertion raised in a few cities.

In between September 2010 and August 2011, I also studied the projects of « Integration villages » within a postdoctoral fellow position related to an FP7 Programm, RESPECT «Tolerance and Equal respect. A comparative study of policies for the distribution of public spaces in culturally diverse societies ». (<http://www.respect.iusspavia.it/>)

This study began after my thesis at Ehes/Paris (Laboratoire d’Anthropologie Sociale), on the Alpinists and the relations to the borders from the eighteenth century until nowadays, notably because I could hence continue to work on the categorization of otherness in Europe. I'm learning now yiddish (level L3) and romanian (level L1 and L2) in Inalco, Paris.

15. Mr Ion Duminica

My name is Ion DUMINICA, I am PhD in Political Sciences. My research field is ethnological and historical aspects of the Roma community from the Republic of Moldova. Also, from 2003 I was involved to be an expert for different projects of the Roma Civili Society, regarding educational process, health and social assistance of Roma people from Republic of Moldova. From 2011 I am a Head of the Ethnical Minorities Section, Centre of Ethnology, Institute of Cultural Heritage, the Academy of Sciences of Moldova. This is my recent publications:



1. Duminica Ion "The Gypsies/Roma of the Republic of Moldova. Political Aspects of Identity in Contemporary Dimensions" . In: *Dynamics of National Identity and Transnational Identities in the Process of European Integration* (E. Marushiakova Ed.). Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008, p. 444-448.

2. Duminica Ion "Rolul Cartei Europene a Limbilor Regionale sau Minoritare privind inițierea procesului de studiere a Limbii Romani în cadrul sistemului educațional din Republica Moldova". In *Carta Europeană a Limbilor – Instrument de Protecție al Diversității Lingvistice și de Întărire a Dialogului Intercultural în Moldova* (Redacția generală: Tatiana Stoianova). Chișinău: Vector, 2008, p.91-98.

3. Duminica Ion "The Educational Process of the Roma Community in the Republic of Moldova". *Наукові Записки*, Том 15, Тематичний випуск «Роми України: из минулого в майбутнє», Київ: Інститут Української Археографії та Джерелознавства ім. М.С. Грушевського Національної Академії Наук України, 2008, стр. 162-170.

4. Duminica Ion "Simbolistica tradițională a romilor europeni în perioada contemporană (I)". *Buletin Științific*. Revistă de Etnografie, Științele Naturii și Muzeologie. Serie nouă. Volumul 11 (24). Etnografie și Muzeologie. Chișinău: Muzeul Național de Etnografie și Istorie Naturală, 2009, p.149-163.

5. Duminica Ion "Roma in the Republic of Moldova. An Ethnic Community Limited in Space and Integrated in Time". *GESIS*. Thematic Series: *Social Sciences Eastern Europe*, 2009/2. "Roma in Central and Eastern Europe". Berlin: Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, 2009, p. 23-26.

In 2010 I was selected by Roma Civil Society like a responsible for the Technical Group of Roma Leaders for development of: "The Action Plan to support Roma in the Republic of Moldova (2011-2015)", draft submitted to the 29 September 2010 – Mr. Ion NEGREI, Vice-Minister of the Government of the Republic of Moldova (Registration No. 08 4601/10).

If I will be elected Scientific Committee member of the European Academic network on Romani Studies, I will work towards to represent the social interests of Roma community from the Republic of Moldova and encouraging ethnological researches in South-Eastern Europe.

16. Ms Judit Durst

Given that I am an independent researcher I was concerned that I might not be the best person to have been nominated; but after much hesitation I have decided to accept the nomination. It is an honour. Thank you.

I am a sociologist, and as an advocate of interdisciplinary and mixed method research, I have conducted projects in the field of anthropological demography and sociology. For periods over the last ten years, I have done fieldwork in a Hungarian Roma village, where people live in abject poverty. I am now in the process of writing up my research findings for a book on this observed community. My main research interests are social exclusion; poverty and reproductive strategies; education and childbearing, and recently: economic anthropology (money lending, or usury).

As I have been involved in several comparative cross-country research projects and benefited considerably from these joint projects, I believe that one of the main contributions of the Roma Network Committee could be to encourage and promote transnational comparative research projects among interested colleagues and to assist them in gaining grant applications.



I would be happy to encourage and contribute to establish an e-journal in 'Romani Studies' where peer-reviewed research papers could be published and made available for all. This would make it easier to read the important new works of colleague's, especially given that some of these works are hidden in rarely read local periodicals. This would be a great way to keep abreast of relevant new research findings in our field. This online journal sharing of research findings could also make a contribution to developing and evolving our university curricula on Roma issues.

Last but not least, the Committee could organise academic workshops or seminars on a regular basis on Roma related issues for a wider academic audience. I trust that one of our Roma Network aims would not be to 'ghettoize' our research for a narrow academic readership but rather to encourage those Roma related projects and distribute their findings which could be of interest to the wider academic (and non-academic) audience.

17. Ms Ada Ingrid Engebrigtsen

Ada I. Engebrigtsen, research professor social anthropology at NOVA. Involved in an official project in Norway from 1978 to 1986 for the "Rehabilitation of Norwegian Gypsies". One year fieldwork in Romania in 1996/7 for the PhD thesis on the interdependent relations between Roma and villagers in a village in Transylvania. I am currently working on a publication about Roma travelling beggars and street-workers in Norway, based on fieldwork in Oslo and Edinburgh. My interest is to stress the necessity of understanding Roma in their social contexts and the great variety in their adaptations, to critically assess the representation among Roma groups, and to develop realistic initiatives in close cooperation with the beneficiaries.

18. Mr Eben Friedman

I completed a Ph.D. in political science at the University of California, San Diego (USA) in 2002. My thesis, "Explaining the Political Integration of Minorities: Roms as a Hard Case," drew on two years of field research in Slovakia and Macedonia. Shortly after completing my Ph.D., I joined the European Centre for Minority Issues in Flensburg (Germany). Based in Skopje (Macedonia) since 2005, I have worked primarily for the Roma Education Fund since 2007.

Whereas my doctoral thesis focused on the extension of rights to Roms in the context of relations between the ethnic majority and the largest ethnic minority in Macedonia and Slovakia, in the past decade my substantive research interests have expanded to include issues related to the design and implementation of the census and deepened significantly in the area of education. Additionally, the geographic scope of my work has expanded to cover Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Kosovo, Montenegro, and Serbia, as well as Macedonia and Slovakia. Relevant publications include an examination of the development of the Slovak Government Plenipotentiary for Romani Communities (EUMAP, 2005), an article on the politics of the census (Anthropology of East Europe Review, 2007), and a policy paper on conditional cash transfers as a tool for improving Roma's education outcomes (Roma Education Fund, 2009).

If elected to the Scientific Committee, I would work to build strong ties between the Network and young Romani researchers. I would also like to see the Network provide a basis for comparative policy analysis, including but not limited to economic approaches which may prove useful for convincing policy makers to take action to improve the situation of Roms in social and political climates where rights-based arguments -- legitimate though they may be -- have proven increasingly ineffective in recent years.



19. Mr Victor Friedman

I am Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Balkan and Slavic Linguistics in the Slavic Department at the University of Chicago, where I regularly teach a course on Balkan sociolinguistics that includes a unit on Romani. I have a cross appointment in the Department of Linguistics, I have an associate appointment in the Department of Anthropology, and I am Director of the University's Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies. I also teach structure of Romani every few years. I began studying Romani in 1973-74 while doing dissertation fieldwork on Macedonian in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia. I have published numerous articles on Romani grammar, etymology, and dialectology, on the formation of standard Romani, and on the place of Romani in Balkan linguistics.

My publications dealing in whole or in part with Romani have appeared in eleven countries. In 1992 I participated in a conference sponsored by the Board of Education of the Republic of Macedonia on the introduction of Romani as a language of study in schools. In summer 1994, I lived in Skopje working as a senior policy and political analyst for the United Nations Protection Forces (UNPROFOR) stationed in former Yugoslavia, during which time Romani concerns were in my purview. I have also served as a consultant on the Republic of Macedonia, including Romani issues, for the Council on Foreign Relations (Center for Preventive Action) and the International Crisis Group. In July 1999, 2001, and 2003, I lectured on Romani linguistics at Central European University - Budapest (as part of an interdisciplinary summer course organized by Michael Stewart). I have also served as an expert witness for Romani asylum seekers in the U.S. In 2008-09 I lived in Skopje doing research on multilingualism funded by Guggenheim and Fulbright-Hays grants. Romani was one of the main foci of that research. If I am elected to the Scientific Committee

I shall continue to contribute to the furthering of international scholarly work and contacts and to the progress of Romani Studies. With regard to the interface between scholarship and policy (academics and practitioners), I consider our efforts as scholars working with oppressed and marginalized people to be an important part of fighting oppression and eliminating marginalization. At the same time, it is important to share the results of our research not only with other academics and with practitioners, but also with those in the general public affected by it.

20. Mr Kimmo Granqvist

My intention is to carry out, guide and promote research on Romani and Romani-based mixed languages within a Pan-European scope, but with a special focus on Northern Europe. This will be implemented in close co-operation with other members of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies, different European universities and other educational actors, NGOs, and within the Romani Language and Culture program established in 2012 at the University of Helsinki. This aims, on the one hand at joint research projects, scientific meetings and publications, and on the other hand at training of researchers, teachers, translators, textbook authors and other professionals in the field of Romani language and Roma issues, able to work both in local and international settings. While emphasis is placed on work conducted within Romani and general linguistics (historical linguistics, grammar, dialectology, variational linguistics, discourse analysis, etc.), dynamic interaction with students and researchers in a wide range of other disciplines is nevertheless fostered, including social anthropology, cultural studies, political sciences, and history. Production of teaching materials, codification and revitalization of individual Romani dialects are supported. The aims also include increasing visibility for the Romani language and its speakers in society, furthering their linguistic equality and contributing positively to educational and other policies, in order to improve their social inclusion across EU countries.



21. Ms Margaret Greenfields

I am a British Social Policy practitioner and researcher who grew up knowing Gypsy and Traveller families from my earliest childhood and who on first qualifying as a lawyer with an interest in housing issues found myself working with community members involved in eviction disputes with landlords and land-owners. Throughout my policy, legal and academic career (I am now 49) I have consistently applied participatory action research methods to engage with Gypsies, Travellers (and more recently Roma) and ensure that as policy is devised and implemented, that community voices are heard, and that a combination of best practice and sound theoretical data underpins proposals which seek to challenge embedded exclusion. I therefore combine both an academic and practitioner's stance on how best to support Gypsy/Traveller and Roma populations to achieve full citizenship and equality.

I have undertaken a long series of public policy research projects and published a number of articles and book chapters on matters pertaining to Gypsy/Traveller health; education; political engagement; gender issues; identity formation and increasingly, access to employment and economic inclusion. I am the co-author of the British Equalities and Human Rights Commission Review of Inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers; the (to date only major) study of Economic Inclusion (with Andrew Ryder) and with Colin Clark co-authored the best-selling British handbook aimed at students and practitioners working with Gypsies and Travellers in Britain (Here to Stay).

My work in developing methodologies which led to the training and employment of Gypsy/Traveller community members as co-researchers and analysts on accommodation assessments has been recognised in the UK by Government departments, the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and in Europe by the Fundamental Rights Agency as best practice in enabling community members to be involved in self-determination in accommodation matters whilst enhancing political and economic inclusion. I have submitted evidence to numerous Government reviews in relation to British Gypsy and Traveller planning, policy and practice and been an advisor to Government departments, health authority and voluntary sector/NGOs working with these communities as well as being instrumental in 'widening participation' in my university through obtaining funding to train Gypsy and Traveller women as health advocates; providing community development training alongside various NGOs and recruiting and supporting Gypsy and Traveller women into Higher Education.

I am a founder member of the Charity Travellers Aid Trust (in 1987) which is the only dedicated organisation in the UK which makes small grants directly to community members in need, often helping to provide basic goods such as fridges and washing machines for disabled people. In addition, I have a long history as working as an advocate/expert witness in family law and accommodation cases pertaining to members of the Gypsy and Traveller communities. I am involved in a number of international networks with academics and NGOs working with Roma in Europe and remain intensely focused on the 'practical' aspects of social change.

If I am elected to the Scientific Committee I will seek to develop stronger links than currently exist between UK based practitioners and NGOs and wider European groups/professionals and continue in my efforts to ensure that research has substantive, measurable, sustainable gains in terms of enhancing the social inclusion of Gypsy/Traveller/Roma people as well as having the embedded objective of including participation from communities directly affected by research and practice. I am particularly interested in gender and employment issues, and access to fundamental rights (e.g. health/education/legal services) for Gypsies/Travellers and Roma and will, to the best of my ability, promote and support younger or less experienced researchers (particularly from Gypsy/Traveller and Roma backgrounds) to gain experience within my fields of expertise.



22. Ms Luba Kalaydjieva

Over the last 20 years, my interest and efforts have focused on studies of the biological history and hereditary disorders of the Roma/Gypsies. During that period, I have co-authored a large number of research publications in refereed high-profile international journal. My team has pioneered these studies and we have become the world leader in this field, as evidence by over 3,000 citations and an h-factor close to 30. I have contributed greatly to establishing international collaboration between medical doctors and scientists not only in terms of the genetic research, but also in promoting the cause of the Roma population of Europe, improving the awareness of the European medical profession regarding the diagnosis and prevention of a large number of severe hereditary disorders, and providing health education and better health care to Roma communities. The vast majority of candidates for the Scientific Committee of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies are experts in the humanities (anthropology, ethnology, history etc.), therefore I believe that my involvement could provide an important additional focus and point of view that will contribute to expanding the activities of the Scientific Committee and of the Network as a whole. There is a large potential of scientific studies bringing together experts in the humanities, in medical anthropology and in genetic research, e.g. attitudes of the Roma population and individual communities towards genetics, availability and usage of genetic services, marriage patterns, enlarging the international network of medical research focusing on the Roma etc. There is also a potential to seek EU funding for such initiatives.

23. Ms Diana Kirilova

Mrs Diana KIRILOVA, PhD in Anthropology and Philosophy in Education at Paris V - Sorbonne University. Juridical Expert in Romani Language at the French Court of Justice.

The ideas and priorities: The rapport to school education for Roma people, the Marriage and Religion between the Roma people and their impact to school education. Individualist and Autonomy aspect in Roma Community and their influence to continue or stop the school education.

24. Ms Katalin Kovalcsik

Dr Katalin Kovalcsik is a musicologist and ethnologist, senior researcher at the Institute of Musicology, Research Centre of Humanities, Hungarian Academy of Sciences working there since 1979 and specialized in the music making of the Roma and Boyashes. She is a board member of the Gypsy Lore Society as the responsible for the Marian Madison Gypsy Lore Society Young Scholar's Prize in Romani Studies submission, helping the able young scholars' work. She is the representative of the Hungarian National Committee of the International Council of Traditional Music, that is the largest international scientific organization for the (ethno)musicologists researching traditional cultures. In the 1980s she was one of the founders of the collection of Romani photos, sound- and video recordings and musical transcriptions of the Institute of Musicology which is now one of the largest Romani collections in Europe.

Her researches have been focused on Hungary, but she had fieldworks in the neighbouring countries, as well. In the 1980s her fieldworks were aimed at setting up a large audio collection of the music sung and played by Roma and Boyashes. After 1989 she published a great deal of materials for scientific and pedagogical purposes. From that time she investigated the new musical processes among the Roma in Hungary with participant observation (as PhD dissertation). After 2000 she has started to research the new crosscultural and integrational processes of the music making of the Roma and Boyashes as part of the local and regional musical life. She has published eight own books (partly with co-authors) and more articles. She has given university courses and lectures at the University of



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Pécs and Loránd Eötvös University in Budapest. She has spoken Hungarian, English, German, Romani and Boyash Romanian dialects (spoken in Hungary).

25. Mr Kyuchukov Hristo

Dear Sirs,

I would like to be a members in the Scientific Committee of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies. I am a specialist in Linguistics and Education and I have published number of books and articles in international journals on the issues of language acquisition and language learning of Roma children as well as on the issues of Romani language.

I am affiliated with the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, Slovakai and with the Free University of Berlin, Germany.

With my knowledge and expertise on the educational and linguistic issues of Roma, I hope I can be helpfull to the Network and to the institutions which the Network is going to advise and help with expertise.

26. Mr Jean-Pierre Liegeois

It was a pleasure for me to be member of the first Scientific Committee —SC— which had to profile the organization and tasks of the Academic Network during last year, and I would be happy now to participate to the network activities but not as a SC member.

Since many years I have been developing collective activities, creating in 1979 the *Gypsy Research Centre* in my university and acting as its director till 2003, completing with several colleagues the first european surveys, for the Council of Europe in 1983 (establishing a network of more than 30 scholars and more later on for updating the survey) and for the European Commission in 1984, then in the 90's developping networks of scholars within the *Interface programme*. I also did try to act as an "interface" between scholars and a broad public, between academic productions and a broader readership, for instance by publishing the *Interface* quarterly during 10 years, the *Interface* book collection through a network of 12 publishers in different countries, and also by different publications including for international institutions. In 1998 I submitted to the European Commission a project proposal for a Thematic Network within the framework of the Erasmus Programme in order to link Universities and to build a European course. The project has been shortlisted, which was already a very significant success but it seems that by that time Romani studies where not at the top of the agenda and this "European Romani Higher Education Network" was not implemented. It might be now on the agenda.

Being one of those "old" academics (PhD in 1973...) and having still (too) many projects to complete, I believe that it is much better for young colleagues to be responsible now for collective tasks, and to participate to the Network SC. This needs time and energy, independance and experience together with new input and ideas, and several outstanding colleagues do have this potential. Therefore time has come for me to retire and leave to others the task to organize and develop collective and networking activities.

But meanwhile I was contacted by colleagues, who consider that it would be good for such a new Network, which raises high expectations hard to meet, and for its SC, to have on board some ancestors or explorers in Romani Studies. Therefore, after thinking about it, even if it is much more comfortable and easy to retire and step back, I did decide to be candidate, but on a short term basis, once only : I mean that if I am elected I shall not be candidate again, for next elections. In this context, I will



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consider my task as a provisionnal link between past and future, in order for the Network not to reinvent the wheel and let know what has been done during last decades, as facilitator for giving visibility to academic activities which are important nowadays and should be much better considered within the actual European situation, and as facilitating the task of the SC as a clearing house for different stakeholders, including the European institutions (I did participate to the Council of Europe activities since 1982, and to the European Commission activities since 1984). The task of this SC is a big challenge and I shall do my best to help.

27. Ms Tove Malloy

I am pleased to accept my nomination as a candidate for membership of the Scientific Committee of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies.

I propose to bring minority governance expertise and experience to the Network.

My candidacy is based on:

Many years of academic work on ethnic and national minorities in Europe with specific focus on policy research in the area of minority rights and governance. In the area of Roma policy research and implementation, I have experience with evaluating Roma inclusion policies and programmes in a number of EU Member States.

I am director of the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) and lecturer at the University of Flensburg. I am member of the Advisory Committee (monitoring body) to the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities in respect of Denmark. In addition to guiding governments, I have also worked in government.

If elected Scientific Committee member of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies, I will work towards

- Promoting Roma rights through Network research on the lack of member states' action in the area of Roma protection,
- Piloting indicators for effective implementation of Roma rights in EU member states, and thus implementing Roma rights through the research results of the Network,
- Ensure the participatory approach by promoting inclusion of Romani representatives in the Network's research design and in research evaluation,
- Making the Network a permanent body with institutional funding through raising the visibility of the Network in European institutions and member states,
- Continuous enhancement of the Network through pro-active and open recruitment of members from all relevant disciplines.

28. Ms Nathalie Manrique

I completed my Ph-D in social anthropology in 2008 about a Gypsy community (*Gitanos*) located in the south of Spain, not far from Granada (my thesis and some of my publications are available on my blog). My fields of research are: the gypsy social organization, kinship, representations of body and of death. In collaboration with other anthropologists, I give a seminar at l'École des hautes études en sciences sociales (Paris) called: "Contemporary debates on kinship (*Les débats contemporains de la parenté*)".



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About my experience within the Council of Europe, several years ago, I took part in two meetings in the European Youth Centre of Budapest concerning young Spanish Gypsies. There, I was mandated by the Spanish Gypsy women association ROMI with which I cooperated during my stay in Spain.

Currently, we are few researches who are building a network for comparative research on representations of death and burial practices among Roma, Sinti and Gypsy people. I am convinced that my participation at the Scientific Committee of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies will be a great chance to disseminate our findings. Besides, if I participate to this committee, I would take advantage of this situation to gather other researchers from various countries to create several transdisciplinary networks (like Eurethno for example). The objective would be to study some Roma, Sinti and Gypsy representations and/or practices within a cross-cultural perspective. I think that it would be a great opportunity to see whether the notion of Roma, Gypsy and Sinti identity is relevant.

More information: <http://nathaliemanrique.hautetfort.com/>

29. Ms Elena Marushiakova

I am ethnologist, working at the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and President of the Gypsy Lore Society. I am Chair of the Balkan Ethnology Department that has a strong Romani Studies section and specialised Romani Studies Library with Archive (<http://www.studiiromani.org>). I began research in Romani studies in the mid-70's, later completing a doctoral thesis on Roma in Slovakia. I am co-founder, with Veselin Popov of the Minority Studies Society *Studii Romani*, which began its work in 1991. I am engaged in several national and international research projects and have a number of publications in both Bulgaria and abroad about Roma in Bulgaria, Balkans and Central and Eastern Europe. My major publications include the first monographic research on history, ethnography, social structure and culture of the Gypsies in Bulgaria (1997) and book on Gypsies in Ottoman Empire (2000), book on Gypsies at Black Sea (2008). Together with Veselin Popov we publish Series of Collections on Roma folklore "Studii Romani" (vol. I, 1994; vol. II, 1995; vol. III-IV, 1997; vol. V-VI, 1998).

We created also Roma Heritage Museum Fund at National Ethnographic Museum in Sofia (1995) and initiated the first museum exhibition about Gypsies in Bulgaria, as well as the First international museum exhibition "Roma/Gypsies in Central and Eastern Europe" in 1998/1999 in Budapest. From 2001 till 2004 together with Veselin Popov I conducted research of Gypsies in Former Soviet Union in the framework of the Complex Research Programme "Difference and integration" of the Universities of Leipzig and Halle.

I am involved in the European Academic Network on Romani Studies since the very beginning starting with the initial brainstorming meeting in 2009 till now.

If elected Scientific Committee member of European Academic Network on Romani Studies I will work towards raising the visibility of the existing research, support of early career researchers and towards broader and socially significant effects of Romani Studies.

My priority will continue to be to promote Romani Studies by encouraging various interdisciplinary approaches and equality of diverse academic schools and traditions within the field and by improving its academic image and university status.



30. Mr Yaron Matras

professional profile: <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/research/Yaron.matras/>

I am Professor of Linguistics and the University of Manchester. I specialise in the historical and sociolinguistic study of Romani dialects, and have researched and published extensively on the structure and development of Romani dialects as well as on Romani language policy and codification. I have also published on aspects of the Romani political movement and on east-west Romani migrations, and I am currently co-directing a research project on the role of language in the formation of a trans-national Romani identity. I am a fluent speaker of Romani and have advised and consulted numerous Romani language translation and documentation projects. I have also led a number of large-scale research projects on Romani, including an online database of Romani dialects and documentation of English Romani, and I was one of the initiators of the online Romani dictionary RomLex.

My first encounter with Roma was as a student in Germany in the late 1980s, when I assisted a Romani NGO. In the early 1990s I served as international liaison and media relations officer for one of the more influential international Roma NGOs, and was the initiator and first editor of the RomNews information service. After joining the University of Manchester in 1995 I served as consultant to the Council of Europe on aspects of east-west Romani migrations and on Romani language policy, and was one of the initiators of the European Curriculum Framework for Romani. I was also advisor on Romani language issues to various bodies such as the Open Society Institute, Next Page Foundation, ERRC and ERTF. Since 1999 I have been serving as Editor in Chief of the academic journal Romani Studies, published by Liverpool University Press. I have been teaching at the CEU Summer School in Romani Studies since its launch in 1999, and I have supervised the work of numerous international postgraduate students specialising in Romani. Over the past few years I have been consulting Manchester City Council on an integration and training programme for young Roma migrants from Romania.

I have a deep commitment to and understanding of cross-disciplinary research in Romani studies, and I bring with me twenty years of experience in supporting dialogue between academics, policymakers and Roma representatives. I also bring with me an intimate familiarity with Romani culture and a first-hand understanding of Romani interests and the political agendas of Romani NGOs. I believe that much work is still needed to eradicate misconceptions about Roma among policymakers, media and, practitioners of various kinds, and I see the role of the Steering Committee as devoted not least to this task.

31. Mr Aidan McGarry

I am a Political Scientist who has published on Roma issues in a variety of journals as well as publishing a book in 2010 entitled 'Who Speaks for Roma? Political Representation of a Transnational Minority Community' (New York: Continuum). My main research interests relate to mobilisation, representation, political participation and identity in Eastern and Western Europe. I would like to be a member of the Scientific Committee to ensure that the network increases the visibility of the scientific knowledge available on the European Roma and ensure that the generation of research speaks to and for Roma in local, national and transnational policy. I believe that, as academics, we should draw attention to the complex and inter-related issues which face Romani communities and I am convinced that this can and should be achieved through an inter-disciplinary approach.



32. Ms Maria Manuela Mendes Ferreira

My name is Maria Manuela Mendes and I have a degree and master in sociology (Faculty of Arts, University of Porto) and a doctorate in social sciences (Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon). I'm a Professor Assistant of urban sociology at Faculty of Architecture of the Technical University of Lisbon (FA-UTL) and researcher at CIES- IUL (Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology, University Institute of Lisbon) since 2008 in the areas of gypsy ethnicity, immigration, social exclusion, local development, resettlement disqualified and territories, with several publications edited. Since 1994 I made some research about portuguese gypsies.

Some publications about gypsies

March 2012: Identities, Racism and Discrimination: Gypsies in Metropolitan Area of Lisbon, Lisbon, Caleidoscópico.

2012 – "'Representations about discrimination practices in the education system built by Gypsies (Ciganos) in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (Portugal)'" accepted by SAGE Open.

2007: Mendes, Maria Manuela e Jorge Malheiros (coords.), "Spaces and conflict and tension expressions among natives, migrant and non-migrant minorities in the LMA (Lisbon Metropolitan Area)", Higher Commissariat for Immigration and Ethnical Minorities.

2007: "Identité et altérité : les ciganos et les autres, les non-ciganos", Études Tsiganes, 30.

2006: "Discrimination practices in the school context towards some minority groups in the Portuguese society", Proceedings of the Social Intervention Meeting: Knowledge and Contexts, Oporto, Paula Frassinetti Higher School of Education.

2005: Us, the Gypsies and the Others: Ethnicity and Social Exclusion, Lisbon, Livros Horizonte.

33. Mr Martin Olivera

I realized my Ph D in anthropology on Roma Gabori of Transylvania, from a long fieldwork conducted between 1999 and 2007. This work led me to mobilize the concept of autochthony to better understand the sociocultural Gypsy realities, while emphasizing the dynamism of the production of the Romanes ("the rom way"), closely linked to the historical, cultural and social environment.

I subsequently interested in Roma migrants from Romania in the Paris region, and how local governments address this issue (particularly in the field of social work). At the same time, I try to develop a critical approach to the "Roma issue" as it is implemented over the past 15 years.

If I am appointed to be member of the scientific network, I will work in particular to bring closer the Romani studies to other fields of contemporary research in social sciences. I will also encourage the development of monographic researches, to promote a concrete and documented knowledge about Gypsy diversity.

34. Mr Alexey Pamporov

Dear colleagues,

It is a great honor and pleasure for me to be nominated as a candidate for the elections of the members in the Scientific Committee of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies. I am a Head Assistant Professor in the Institute for Study of Societies and Knowledge at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Chief Science Officer of the Open Society Institute – Sofia. I teach *Romani history and everyday culture* for about 10 years: 2002-2009 in the Anthropology department of the New Bulgarian University and since 2009 in the Culture studies department of Sofia University. I have been a guest lecturer on Roma related topics in the Central European University (2007 and 2009), in the



Danish Institute for Study Abroad (2009), and in the International Summer School on Religion and Public Life (2011).

I have been working in the fields of Anthropology, Demography and Sociology, covering a broad range of issues such as marital, family and kinship patterns; fertility choices; circular migrations; coping strategies; religious beliefs; leadership and political participation; identity and language shifts. Since 2007, I was in charge of several surveys (representative about the segregated settlements in Bulgaria) focused on the multidimensional poverty.

Having interdisciplinary research background and being affiliated both with an academic institution and civil society organization, my candidacy is going to set forward the aims of the EANRS. I will be able to contribute to:

- Cooperation with policymakers and development on common positions on policy issues and debates
- Creation of an interdisciplinary research community
- Raising visibility of the existing studies and establishment of a research database

I believe that my candidacy could be of great use about the goals of the network and in my face you will find responsible and qualified partner. Thank you for considering my nomination and devoting time on my letter of intent.

35. Mr Andras László Pap

I have been involved in various research and policy development projects concerning Roma. My research interest includes ethnic data collection (census and beyond), minority rights, political representation of ethnic minorities, ethnic profiling, segregation, hate speech, harassment and hate crime legislation, as well as monitoring government practices.

I believe this Network can play a vital role in sharing research findings, developing joint comparative research projects and grant applications, as well as – something I would strongly encourage – creating a stock of exchange for academic curricula. As for the latter, I believe that sharing resources (case studies, cutting edge research findings) for academic curriculum development could be one of the core values of this network.

I would gladly participate in all of these endeavors in addition to other assignments my election would entail.

36. Mr Trajko Petrovski

I am honored to have been nominated as the candidate for membership in the Scientific Board of the European Network for Roma Studies.

I herewith confirm my readiness to give a short statement about my intentions. If I am chosen as the candidate for the Scientific Board, I will maximally engage in order for authority and dignity of this academic scientific network to keep growing and strengthening. I will work on developing activities of the network in the scientific area, to improve planning and implementation policy relating to Roma at the European level.



37. Mr Veselin Popov

I am ethnologist, working at the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in the Balkan Ethnology Department that has a strong Romani Studies section and specialised Romani Studies Library with Archive (<http://www.studiiromani.org>).

My interest in Romani Studies started already during preparation of my MA, which was devoted to the *Social and Cultural Life of the Workers in Town of Gabrovo*, when I recognized that members of the first proletariat in Bulgaria were Roma. My PhD thesis was devoted to *Bulgarian Traditional Plays and Performances*, in which Roma have a specific and important place. I am co-founder, with Elena Marushiakova of the Minority Studies Society *Studii Romani*, which began its work in 1991. I am engaged in several national and international research projects and have a number of publications about Roma in Bulgaria, Balkans and Central and Eastern Europe. My major publications include the first monographic research on history, ethnography, social structure and culture of the Gypsies in Bulgaria (1997), book on Gypsies in Ottoman Empire (2000), book on Gypsies at Black Sea. Together with Elena Marushiakova since 1994 we are publishing Series of Collections on Roma folklore “Studii Romani”. We created also Roma Heritage Museum Fund at National Ethnographic Museum in Sofia (1995) and initiated the first museum exhibition about Gypsies in Bulgaria, as well as the First international museum exhibition “Roma/Gypsies in Central and Eastern Europe” in 1998/1999 in Budapest. From 2001 till 2004 together with Elena Marushiakova I conducted research of Gypsies in Former Soviet Union in the framework of the Complex Research Programme “Difference and integration” of the Universities of Leipzig and Halle.

I am involved in the European Academic Network on Romani Studies since the very beginning starting with initial brainstorming meeting in 2009 till now.

If elected Scientific Committee member of European Academic Network on Romani Studies I will work towards raising the visibility of the existing research, support of early career researcher and towards broader and socially significant effects of Romani Studies.

My priority will continue to be to promote Romani Studies by encouraging various interdisciplinary approaches and equality of diverse academic schools and traditions within the field and by improving its academic image and university status.

38. Ms Melanie Ram

Thank you very much for the nomination. Here is my statement of intention:

My research on Roma has focused on non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the role of the EU, and government policies in both old and new EU Member States (initially with Romania and the Czech Republic as my focus). My publications have addressed issues such as NGO advocacy, anti-discrimination policy, and EU conditionality, among others. I have been working on minority issues in Europe, including the Roma, since the mid-1990s, originally in the context of EU enlargement to Central and Eastern Europe.

I have a PhD in Political Science from George Washington University in Washington, DC and currently teach International Relations at California State University, Fresno.

I believe this Network can play an important role in informing policies and practices through interdisciplinary and cross-national exchange of research and ideas, as well as by sharing research with policymakers in policy-relevant ways. I would be happy to contribute to the goals and activities of the Network.



40. Mr Rergo (Yermoshkin) Nico (Sergiy)

Sa tumare pativake, amalale vi amalinala,

I'm Rom, professional linguist and lawyer, PhD, former university lecturer and associated prof., school teacher. I'm founder of the first Roma NGO in Ukraine (1988, Soviet time), co-founder of the Roma Association of Ukraine in early 90s, and the Roma Council of Ukraine in 2009 (being its elected secretary) to promote political participation of Roma and to lobby our interests. In 2009, the Romology Institute (omenvadesko anitlan) was founded, I was its co-founder and still am its elected director. I would like to contribute to the European Academic Network on Romani Studies, as member of its Scientific Committee, aiming, first of all, at developing the Romology and eradication of gypsology.

So, I accept nomination.

Neis tumenge.

41. Ms Magdalena Slavkova

Dear colleagues,

I feel honoured to be nominated as a candidate and decided to accept the nomination. Please see below my Statement.

I am a post-doctoral researcher at the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies in Bulgaria. My research interests include Evangelical religious mobilization of Romani groups, leadership patterns among them and labour mobility of Romani communities in Europe.

I began research in Romani Studies by the end of the 90's as B.A. student in History and Ethnology. My Ph.D (2006) was on Evangelical Gypsies, which is further developed and published in a book (2007). Since then my research has included projects related to the labour mobility of various Romani communities to Spain, Greece and Portugal where I am conducting a long term study. My publications concerning Romani communities are published in Bulgarian, English, French and Spanish.

My goals include fostering and expanding scholarly activities and dialogue between specialists. If elected I would also work to promote Romani Studies both in academic and applied settings, and towards visibility of the research findings, ideas and successful practices into the Society.

42. Ms Eva Sobotka

Eva Sobotka is the FRA Roma Programme Manager at the European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA www.fra.europa.eu). In her current role, she manages the Agency's work on Roma, Holocaust and Human Rights Education, antisemitism, extremism, racism and xenophobia. She has published widely on the situation of minorities in the EU, fundamental rights in the EU, in particular the Roma and conflict resolution. Dr. Sobotka is a Czech national and attended the Central European University and the Lancaster University in the UK and holds a Ph.D. degree in Politics and International Relations. Her PhD focused on the issue of influence of international norms on policy formation on Roma in EU Member States (Mobilising International Norms: Issue Actors, Roma and the State, 2004).

Declaration of statement of intention

Hereby I declare my intention to stand as a candidate for the election of members of the Scientific Committee of the European Academic Network on Romani studies. Having been involved in the issue of Roma from a variety of angles: academic, policy making, policy focused research, advocacy and



community based, I believe I offer a wide range of expertise that could benefit the growth of the network and scope of its activities. I believe that the network needs to consider a strategic role for itself, providing intelligence, both grounded in a wide range of fields falling under Romani studies (social science, humanities) and in EU policy making context. I would push for developing a short, medium and a long term vision and action plan of the network to achieve its enhancement and explore its, yet un-known, potential. For the immediate period, I can see three possible steps for the Scientific committee: (1) put the network on the map as a HUB of intelligence concerning Roma issues both for academic as well as policy making audiences (2) promote high quality research projects and further growth of Romani studies as a field and (3) support collaborative projects and linkages across disciplines and fields.

43. Mr Michael Stewart

I have been working with Romany populations in Europe for most of my professional life. I wrote my thesis, *Brothers in Song: The survival of Romany Identity and Community in Socialist Hungary* at the LSE in 1988. This was translated into Hungarian as *Daltestvérek* and I published a completely rewritten book, *Time of the Gypsies* in 1997. An edited collection (with S Day and E Papataxiarchis), placed the strategic representations of time I had described among Hungarian Vlach Rom in a global comparative sociology. Since 1997 I have taught at UCL, London and since 1998 I have also taught at Central European University. I have organised 12 summer schools at CEU on Romany Studies (with nearly 500 alumni), which have presented an ecumenical view of the field to young researchers. These courses resulted in a published volume, *Multidisciplinary approaches to Romany Studies*. I am /have supervised seven PhD theses on Romany populations in Europe and beyond and currently have one doctoral student working in Romania/Italy and one in Hungary on extremist anti-Romany politics. My edited collection, *'The Gypsy Menace': Anti-Romany politics and the new populism in Europe*, comes out with Hurst in April.

I hope that the election of a first Scientific Committee of the Academic Network will provide an opportunity for a radical renewal of the academic capital that has informed CoE and EU institutional practice. I, for instance, would like greater, serious academic input into texts like http://www.coe.int/AboutCoe/media/interface/publications/roms_en.pdf

I would further suggest to fellow scholars that when you come to vote in this elections you maintain these considerations in mind:

- a) vote for a range of seniority with some senior, some mid career and some junior researchers (and a renewal of the expertise that informs policy in Europe)
- b) vote for a wide range of disciplines
- c) vote for a wide range of countries and not just your own colleagues and co-nationals - this committee has to be representative of the current state of art in the many fields where people work with Roma. Please do not vote for two people from the same discipline researching in the same country or working in the same institute.
- d) vote for scholars with a clear track record in *scholarship* and whose publications in *international peer reviewed* journals and other high quality, refereed books etc. establishes their *international* academic standing.

I do not see this as a political body. Nor do I see this committee as an *academic* body whose function is to advance the field of Romany Studies (the Gypsy Lore Society, despite its unreconstructed name should continue to do that, especially through its journal). The job here is to promote awareness of the



most up to date and internationally reputable research to those outside academia whose policy and practical work might benefit from expertise. Hence my suggestion that we need to select colleagues who allow and promote the expression of a wide range of views and who are keen to promote the work of scholars from other countries and disciplines and in particular promote the leadership of young scholars, as I and other colleagues have done in the summer schools and other research programmes.

44. Ms Elisabeth Tauber

At this point of the network's young history I am aiming at building bridges for a constructive dialogue between different academic traditions and schools, between different national backgrounds of its members, between researchers and their respective European and national institutions and finally between different Romani family networks and European institutions.

This concern for mediation is strongly motivated by my own professional and personal circumstances: I did a binational doctoral thesis (University of Florence and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich), I am teaching anthropology in a trilingual University (Italian, German, English) and I am living with my intercultural family in a 'divided society', the multi-lingual border region of South Tyrol in Northern Italian.

My main concern for this academic network, which in my view is about to become a relevant European scientific institution is its contribution to establishing high academic standards. Only on this basis the network will be able to effectively support scholars to take part and share their expertise in European decision-making processes. I am convinced that these standards will have a backflow to Romani communities in Europe.

The network itself demonstrates the vast contribution which senior and junior researchers have made over the last thirty years to building up a solid academic tradition of Romani Studies. I wish to engage in giving our network the possibility to use this resource effectively and to step out of the relatively isolated and powerless position we often find ourselves in.

After my anthropological and ethnographic contribution to anthropology and Romani Studies - my first monograph on marriage, death, and social coercion is based on three and a half years of life and research with Sinti living in a camp in Northern Italy - I endeavoured to enlarging my focus. My present research therefore focuses on public institutions in Italy and Brussels. With this second long-term and multisited ethnographic fieldwork I wish to tackle an epistemological lacuna of Romani Studies: the deep understanding of institutional rationales and logics (*public, rule, action and thought*) that constantly aim at "Roma integration".

45. Ms Aspasia Theodosiou

I feel deeply honoured by being nominated as a candidate member of the Scientific Committee, and thank you for the trust that such a nomination involves. I consider our Network utterly important and would very much like to be active in it. So I do accept this honouring nomination.

As a social anthropologist my priority is to promote and encourage the importance of multidisciplinary and new theoretical approaches in Romani studies and to support early career researchers.



46. Mr Michal Vašečka

Dear colleagues. I have been nominated as a candidate for the Scientific Committee of the European Network on Romani Studies. It came as a surprise for me, to be very honest, and I understand it as a sign of respect for my scientific work in the field of Romani studies.

Let me confirm my willingness to candidate and to help to establish Romani Studies Network as a respectable network offering in-depth analysis to both policy makers and academia. As a sociologist, I have been active in ethnic studies research for 18 years, with numerous published articles, books, and research reports focused on Roma issues. Looking back, I am still proud of various activities I have been part of, let me mention three of them I value most:

1. **Global report on Roma in Slovakia.** In 2001-2002 I prepared and published more than 900 pages long comprehensive report on Roma in Slovakia, with 55 chapters covering all spheres of life of Roma. In last 10 years, it has been the most used book on Roma in Slovakia.
2. **Quantitative study on living conditions of Roma in Slovakia.** In cooperation with the UNDP program in Bratislava I prepared methodology of conducting quantitative study in marginalized Roma communities and under my auspices quantitative study has been conducted. UNDP report “Trap of dependency”, based on a research, is widely used all around Central and Eastern Europe.
3. **National strategy of Roma inclusion.** In 2011, under a coordination by the World Bank, I outlined principles of a new Strategy of the Slovak republic and later I have been active in the legislative process of its adoption. National strategy has been approved by the Slovak government at the beginning of 2012 and Kalman Mizsei of the OSI declared that is without any doubts one of the best strategies accepted in the region.

If successful as a nominee, I would like to focus on three issues that I consider to be pressing nowadays within Romani studies:

1. **Impact on national strategies and policy programs.** Based on my experiences with a new Strategy preparation, I realized how limited impact various academic studies have upon policy-making process. Cleavage between policy makers and world of academia is in spite of various attempts on both sides increasing and therefore I consider activities of the network very important.
2. **Impact on EC programs and structural funds.** Based on experiences from Slovakia, I would like to see at least small impact on EU officials and national representatives in their decisions of financing various activities in a broad so-called Roma issues EU-wide.
3. **More cross-subject understanding in Roma studies.** I would like to contribute to a change of attitudes within a Roma studies and in-between researchers working in this field coming from various scientific background (sociology, social anthropology, economy). In last two decades I have witnessing deep misunderstanding and wild controversies coming from lack of mutual respect between researchers. Level and depth of animosities within Roma studies reached the point, when it started to be unproductive and in consequences harming not only Roma studies itself, but also Roma in general.

47. Mr Peter Vermeersch

I am a professor of political science at the University of Leuven in Belgium (KU Leuven) where I am currently affiliated with the Institute for International and European Policy and the Centre for Research on Peace and Development. In 2007 and 2008, I was a visiting scholar at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University. Over the last two decades I have regularly studied, lived and conducted research in Central Europe and the Balkans.



romanistudies.eu

European Academic Network on Romani Studies

A large part of my research is devoted to issues that are of relevance to the Roma in Europe. I am in particular interested in ethnic mobilization, minority politics, inclusive citizenship, resurgent nationalism and party politics. In 2006 I published 'The Romani Movement: Minority Politics and Ethnic Mobilization in Contemporary Central Europe' (Oxford and New York: Berghahn Books).

I would bring to this Network expertise about conducting international empirical social science research on issues related to the Roma, as well as a strong knowledge on how to incorporate in such research theoretical and conceptual issues on minority representation, advocacy and social inclusion. In addition, as a proactive and experienced advocate of innovative citizens' participation initiatives in Belgium, I can bring to the Network a commitment to the practice and ideas of participatory democracy and citizen engagement.

I think the Network is an important initiative and could, among others, function as:

- a forum for scholarly debate: it could enable an exchange of ideas between scholars in different disciplines, different places in Europe and different research traditions on how to address issues that concern the Roma.
- a channel of information about the state of the art: it could help to create a channel through which information about relevant academic studies and data collections can be disseminated.
- a forum for reflection on how to empower Roma through research: it could enable ideas about how researchers best build effective partnerships with those present in the field.
- a forum for reflection on how to incorporate research on issues relevant to the Roma in academic teaching in various disciplines: it could support an exchange of ideas on the development of courses, curricula, syllabi, readings lists for students and so on.

More information: <http://www.petervermeersch.net>

48. Ms Enikő Vincze

I am professor on socio-cultural anthropology and gender studies at the Faculty of European Studies, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania delivering courses on topics such as Gender and ethnicity. The case of Roma women; Identities and intersectionality; Culture, rights and social exclusion.

Currently (between 2011-2014) I am coordinating the research on „Spatialization and racialization of social exclusion. The social and cultural formation of Gypsy ghettos in Romania in a European context”. Between 2008 and 2011 I was the country team leader of the Framework Program 7 project EDUMIGROM („Ethnic differences in education and diverging prospects for urban youth in an enlarged Europe” – www.edumigrom.edu), and coordinated and conducted the qualitative research within the project “Equality through difference. Roma women’s access to the labor market”, in cooperation with the Roma Women’s Association for Our Children (Timisoara) and Desire Foundation (Cluj), supported by European Social Funds (www.femrom.ro). Both of these projects produced empirically based analytical papers on how social inequalities are affecting marginalized ethnic Roma in their access to school education and decent work, and how these inequalities are reproduced by their disadvantages cumulated in education and employment. Moreover, they also resulted in evidence-based policy papers with recommendations regarding the addressed issues. Since 2010 I am involved into local activist work against residential segregation and ghettoization, and for the elaboration and implementation of a strategy for social inclusion in the city of Cluj, with an integrated housing project for disadvantaged Roma at its core.

Besides papers and volumes resulted from the research mentioned above, my other major topic-related published studies are: “Questioning the <Feminization of Poverty> in Romania”, in a study co-authored by N. Magyari, L. Popescu and T. Rotariu, in *Poverty, Ethnicity, and Gender in Eastern*



Europe During the Market Transition, edited by R.J. Emigh and I. Szelényi, Praeger, 2001. “Romanian Gender Regimes and Women's Citizenship”, in *Women and Citizenship in Central and Eastern Europe*, edited by Jasmina Lukic, Joanna Regulska and Darja Zavrsek, Ashgate, 2006, 21-39. “Public Policies as Vehicles of Social Exclusion. The Case of Romani Women's Access to Reproductive Health in Romania”, in *Gender Politics in Post-Comunist Eurasia*, edited by Linda Racioppi and Katehrine O'Sullivan, 2009, 87-119. “Le patriarcat d'en haut et d'en bas en Roumanie”, in *Nouvelles Questions Feministes*, Postcommunisme: Genre et États en transition, 2004, Vol. 23, N°2, 29-49. „Gender, Ethnicity and the Construction of the Social Order. A View from Below on Romania”, in *Anthropological Yearbook of European Cultures*, Gender and Nation in South Eastern Europe, Vol. 14, 2005, 197-227. „Reproducing Inequalities through Reproductive Control. The case of Romani women from Romania”, in *The Anthropology of East Europe Review*, Special issue on Roma, Volume 25, Number 2, Fall 2007, 108-121. „Pauvre jeune femme rom ! Réflexions sur la discrimination multiple des femmes rom et sur l'exclusion sociale”, in *Etudes Tsiganes*, Etre une femme dans le monde tsigane, 2009, n°33-34, 162-192.

As member of the scientific committee of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies I would like to initiate a trans-national cooperation for developing Roma studies programs to be delivered at several universities (using European frameworks for exchanges on the domain of higher education). This might have a more academic component, in the form of joint courses or programs at MA or PhD level, but also a more policy-oriented component addressing several local and national stakeholders about social exclusion, discrimination, segregation, racism, equal opportunities and human rights. Besides, on the base of my previous experiences, I might also have an important contribution in the framework of the Scientific Committee to the elaboration and implementation of strategies of cooperation between academics, activists and public authorities at different levels (from local to European), in order to connect their knowledge and experiences, and to transform their cooperation into efficient policies that function at local level. I can also imagine that conferences might be organized as a joint effort of academics while involving into these meetings policy-makers and stakeholders from different countries.

Personally I am very challenged by the possibility to take part in this joint endeavour that might really represent and use the value of academic work for improving the way in which European, national and local institutions are viewing the „Roma issue” and are acting on it.

49. Ms Sofiya Zahova

Sofiya Zahova holds a PhD in Ethnology and is currently a post-doctoral researcher in the Balkan Ethnology Department, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Her research interests are related to Roma communities' identities, the relationship between identity and culture, influence of the policies of identity established by the new states in Southeastern Europe on the Roma/Gypsy communities there.

Sofiya Zahova has been working both individually and as a member of research teams organized by the Studii Romani Minority Studies Society and the Balkan Ethnology Department on documenting and archiving Romani culture and its promotion among general audiences. She has contributed to enrichment of the collection and to facilitating access of young scholars and Roma young people to the Studii Romani Specialized Library and Archive. She has experience in working with Roma civil society organization in SEE and has provided expertise on educational projects for Roma/Gypsy children. Since January is member of the Gypsy Lore Society Board of Directors 2012.

Sofiya Zahova would like to contribute to the EANRS's aim to involve junior researchers, who have interest to participate in scientific debates at European level.